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SOVIET FORCES APPROACH BRANDENBURG, POTSDAM

Stalin Claims 21 Metropolitan Districts Inside Berlin Are Already Occupied

Domei

STOCKHOLM, April 24.—German forces defending Berlin yesterday refused flatly to listen to the Soviet demands that they surrender, according to a report by the Scandinavian news agency from Berlin via Copenhagen.

Domei

ZURICH, April 24.—A Berlin broadcast quoting the German high command said that the Soviet's encircling drive across Berlin on the southwest had reached areas southeast of Brandenburg and east of Potsdam, Berlin's great western suburb. Brandenburg is 35 kilometers west of Berlin.

Meanwhile, Marshal Josef Stalin in his order of the day announced that his 1st White Russian and 1st Ukrainian armies had already cleared 21 metropolitan districts—125 square miles—inside Berlin by yesterday.

Marshal Stalin said that the inner city's main defense line based on the railway embankment ringing the city was shattered and the Soviet troops have captured the gas works within two miles of Potsdamer Platz which is the heart of Berlin.

A UP report from Moscow said that more than half of Berlin was in Soviet hands.

The Hamburg radio said late tonight that the Fuehrer is directing the battle of Berlin surrounded by military and political advisers. Every hour he gets the latest reports on the situation. He himself makes the necessary decisions where his forces are to be used and where reinforcements must be sent.

Meanwhile, while the big battle for Berlin is still in full swing, another campaign is being conducted in southern Germany to compress the so-called southern redoubt of Bavaria. According to frontline reports the American 7th Army is streaming across the Danube River toward Munich after capturing the city of Ulm. They are reported to be 27 kilometers west of Augsburg.

To the left of the 7th Army General George Patton's 3rd Army is heading for Regensburg and its spearheads are reported to be within 50 kilometers of the Austrian border.

Closing in from the other side of the German Alpine redoubt, is the Red Army that is half way across Austria. It has driven to the town of Eisenerz which is 104 kilometers from Berchtesgaden.

CANADIAN PRIME MINISTER DISSOLVES PARLIAMENT

General Election on June 11; 5 Ministers Resign Posts; 7 New Members Named

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 24.—The Canadian Parliament was dissolved during the weekend with the general election called for on June 11 to choose a new Government to direct Canada's affairs during the next five years, according to an Ottawa report today.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister William L. Mackenzie King has reformed his Cabinet. Five Ministers have resigned their posts and seven new members were appointed. The Prime Minister also appointed 12 new members to the Senate including Charles L. Bishop, Dean of the Parliamentary Press Gathering. It is the first time in Canada's history that a reporter has received an honor of this kind and all Canadians are viewing the appointment with satisfaction.

The political campaign which will soon get under way in Canada is certainly bound to be long and bitter. King and his followers in the Liberal Party will seek reelection on the ground that they have satisfactorily conducted the affairs of the nation during the years.

The Conservative Party is expected to fight this campaign on the ground that the Mackenzie King Government does not go far enough. The conscription issue which has been one of the most bitter national controversies throughout the war will be heard again. The Government has announced that Canada will take part in the Pacific war and that her army, navy and air force will be represented by volunteers.

Opposition parties are expected to oppose this in the claim that conscription should be imposed completely with Canada represented as fully in the Pacific as she was in Europe. The Cooperative Commonwealth Federation Party, commonly known as the Socialist Party, will most likely push its campaign claiming that the Liberal Government had not made adequate preparations to meet postwar problems.

Supreme Soviet Meet Convened in Moscow On Eve of S.F. Parley

Domei

MOSCOW, April 24.—The Supreme Soviet meeting was opened today in the Kremlin with more than 1,000 deputies gathered at the Saint Andrews Hall for a historic session on the eve of the San Francisco Conference. Andrei Andreyev, President of the Council of Union, is chairman of the meeting which is the third one since the beginning of the Soviet-German war.

BRITAIN BACKING MOSCOW ON VOTING ISSUE AT S.F.

Attlee Clarifies Stand Before 400 Scribes; Upholds Trusteeship for Colonies

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 24.—British Deputy Prime Minister Clement Attlee, who is a member of the British delegation to the San Francisco Conference announced at a press conference today that Britain will support the Soviet request for three votes in the assembly of the proposed world security organization, according to a San Francisco dispatch. The proposal was for separate seats for the Soviet Union, White Russia and the Ukraine.

Attlee who was outlining the British delegation policy to more than 400 journalists of all nationalities also said that Britain would uphold that all colonial territories should operate on the principle of trusteeship. He declared that Britain believed that "peace is indivisible" and could not be broken up into regional organizations and arrangements.

Attlee expressed himself as hopeful that the solution of the Polish question would be reached, but he refused further comments on the grounds that negotiations were still continuing.

He also appealed for cooperation among the sponsors of the conference. "Our great objective is to keep the great Powers together. All depends on that," he said. "We have learned from past experience that if we do not hang together we shall hang separately."

He urged that the "international security organization should be not just a world debating society, but a world organization with a council with power to act. There must be greater decisions by those who have to take the greatest responsibilities." he stated.

The possibility of India being placed under an international trusteeship was put to Attlee by American newsmen. Attlee's reply was that this was a question for the Indians themselves to decide. He denied the suggestions that a vote of India at the San Francisco Conference would be "merely a vote for Britain."

CANADA SIGNS AGREEMENT

4th Protocol Pact Concluded With U.S., Britain, U.S.S.R.

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 23.—The Canadian Government announced that Canada, the United States, Britain and the Soviet Union on April 21 signed an agreement known as the Fourth Protocol, according to an Ottawa report.

The agreement covers the sending of supplies to the Soviet Union and the latter reaffirms its determination to furnish the other nations concerned with such raw materials and services needed for war as they become available.

The Canadian Government also disclosed that Sweden and Canada have agreed to bring into force the International Air Services Transit Agreement, which will give both countries the privilege of flying over each other's territory without landing and the right to land for non-traffic purposes.

Swedish-Reich Phone Cut

Domei

STOCKHOLM, April 24.—Local Government authorities said here today that there had been no telegraph and telephone communication with Berlin since Sunday. Meanwhile, no news has been forthcoming from the 20 Japanese Embassy staff members and newspapermen known to have remained in the German capital.

U.S. REFUSES TO INVITE POLAND TO S.F. MEETING

Wants Regime Broadened to Include More Polish Factions; Washington Talks Fail

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 24.—Although the Soviet-supported Polish Provisional Government of National Unity at Warsaw is one of the United Nations, it has not yet received an invitation to attend the United Nations Conference on International Organization to be opened in San Francisco on Wednesday, according to a Washington report.

The dispatch said that the U.S. State Department has refused to extend the invitation until the Polish Government is broadened to include more Polish factions.

Another Washington report said that the foreign secretaries meeting in Washington have been unable to reach an agreement on the Polish question and that discussions will be continued later at San Francisco.

Meanwhile, Edward Stettinius, U.S. Secretary of State, arrived in San Francisco today as America's chief delegate to the United Nations Conference on International Organization opening tomorrow, bringing with him the still unsolved Polish dispute of the "Big Three" Powers, according to a San Francisco dispatch.

Vyacheslav Molotov, Soviet Foreign Commissar, also arrived in the city today.

Polish Issue Unsettled

A UP dispatch from San Francisco said that the conference has been jeopardized even before it began as the Tri-Power dispute over Poland was transferred to the city for adjustment. Scarcely 24 hours before the first plenary session scheduled to begin at 4:30 p.m. tomorrow, the "Big Three" found themselves in an embarrassing position unable to settle the misunderstanding which was thought to have been cleared up last summer in the Crimea parley.

The report added that efforts to adjust the dispute in the preliminary Washington discussions have failed. Some observers counted the failure as an ominous prelude to the great international effort to guarantee future peace Delegations of other nations anxiously awaited the arrival of the Big Powers' top diplomats and it is generally conceded that the "Big Three" must adjust the dispute among themselves if the conference is to have the opportunity to write a postwar security charter.

The White House announcement that the Polish discussions are being transferred were explained as an interval to give Mr. Molotov the opportunity to consult his Government. This may indicate an Anglo-American counter-proposal of some kind. Likewise it may mean that Stettinius and Eden are standing unyieldingly. In either case, it is believed that something has to give way in London, Washington or the conference to give the best chance for success.

The Soviets are saying nothing, but they are the "talk of the town." The mere fact that the tenth floor of the St. Francis Hotel is taken over by the Soviet delegation has San Francisco "punchy" with curiosity. Also the fact that Russian guards are protecting the quarters added popular interest.

Another San Francisco dispatch said that 46 nations will be represented at the San Francisco Conference, but 18 others have failed to qualify for representation because they have not declared war on Germany, as laid down at the Crimea Conference or have not signed the United Nations Declaration.

King Leaves for S.F.

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, April 23.—Canadian Prime Minister William L. Mackenzie King left Ottawa last Thursday for San Francisco as head of the Canadian delegation to the United Nations Conference on International Organization opening on Wednesday, it was revealed today in Ottawa.

The party consists of 60 other members and includes the leaders of the opposition parties and the House of Commons and the Senate. The delegation will be supported by a large number of officials from the Department of External Affairs who will act as advisers.

Dutch Opposing Proposal

Domei

LISBON, April 23.—Dr. Eeclo Van Kleffens, Dutch Foreign Minister, declared today that the Netherlands delegation to the San Francisco Conference opening Wednesday, would oppose the veto arrangement agreed upon by the "Big Three" at Yalta, on the grounds that "no Power—big or small—should be allowed to judge in its own cause."

PLANS CAMPAIGN IN NORWAY

Starting After Hostilities End on German Mainland

Domei

STOCKHOLM, April 24.—The anti-Axis command has planned to start a Norwegian campaign as soon as the hostilities on the German mainland come to an end. High officers of the anti-Axis command, according to an Internews dispatch from London, declared on April 20 that immediately following the close of the European continental campaign the anti-Axis forces would concentrate on a drive to oust the German forces from Norway. Various London newspapers anticipate very stiff resistance from the German forces. The Daily Telegraph remarked: "We should see that we are under no illusion about the forthcoming Norwegian campaign. As long as an end is not made of the resistance of the German forces in Norway, we shall not be in a position to greet the day of victory."

FRANCE DEMANDS STATUS OF GREAT POWER AT S.F.

Claims Her International Obligations Are as Important As China's in Asia

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, April 25.—French Foreign Minister Georges Bidault's sudden journey to San Francisco has given rise to the question in Paris circles as to whether or not France should be considered a great Power, according to the Paris correspondent of the Svenska Dagbladet.

The fact that Chungking, but not France, will be represented at the Conference as a great Power has made a deep and humiliating impression on the people of France, according to the same report. There is, however, the correspondent stated, no aversion against China but the opinion is that international obligations placed upon France are at least as important as those placed upon China in Asia. The report continues:

Renewed French activity and initiative power day by day is preparing France to play an important role in international life. But the French have other arguments which will make a deeper impression upon the world as to which power is "great."

If France is not given the full rights of a great Power, the Soviet Union will be the only dominating Power on the Continent. However strong their alliance with the Soviet might be, this cannot be to the interest of the United States or Britain.

There is no other way open than to recognize France as a great Power in the West if balance is to be maintained. Britain and the United States are fully aware that it is a mistake, both from the viewpoint of these two countries and from the Soviet viewpoint, not to give France a clear place among the great.

When France one day is recognized as a great Power, she will feel no responsibility for many of the decisions made earlier without consulting her, and this might place the other Powers in a difficult situation. According to the opinion of official French circles which are 100 per cent De Gaullists, "It is true that we are poor and it will take some time before we can get the key power in the West, but it is to the American and British interests that this is realized as soon as possible.

The aliens must help industrial life become reconstructed, and for the interest of all nations this help must be unreserved and generous."

RHINE FIGHT COSTLY TO U.S.

47,023 Casualties Suffered, Stimson Reveals

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 24.—Secretary of War Stimson revealed last week that the battle for the Rhine and its crossing in March cost 47,023 American army casualties, according to a Washington dispatch. This latest figure includes 6,214 killed, 35,443 wounded and 5,366 missing.

Stimson also disclosed that American ground casualties on the Western Front since the invasion day stood at 473,215 up to the end of March. And he announced that casualty figures in all of the armed forces from the outbreak of the war up to April 7 now total 912,487—the army casualties reached 813,870, and the navy's, 98,608. The latest casualty figures show an increase of 13,088 since last week's report.

PETAIN LEAVES GERMANY

Enters Switzerland to Surrender Self to French Authorities

Domei

ZURICH, April 24.—Marshal Philippe Petain entered Switzerland from Germany today after asking and receiving official permission to cross the neutral country into France to surrender himself to French authorities, according to a Berne dispatch.

Petain who was the French Chief of State during the German occupation was summoned yesterday by the French high court to stand trial for treason on May 17. Petain, his wife and several companies crossed the Swiss border this morning at St. Margarethen near the eastern end of Lake Constance.

Pierre Laval, former French Prime Minister today tried to enter the small principality of Liechtenstein which is situated between Austria and Switzerland at a place near Vaduz, but was turned back.

BRITONS MUST CONTINUE TO BEAR BIG TAX BURDEN

No Relief Offered to People as Anderson Introduces £6,000,000,000 Budget for Year

Domei

STOCKHOLM, April 24.—Sir John Anderson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, gave little comfort to the British people with the announcement today that "for the first time in Britain's history the year's expenditure had exceeded £6,000,000,000" and offered virtually no relief for the present to Britons who are now taxed at ten shillings to the pound sterling, according to a London dispatch.

The broad meaning of the budget statement today was this—"Japan's defeat at the earliest possible moment after the collapse of Germany will be achieved only by maintaining the British citizens' financial sacrifice at their present level which is the highest in the world."

The Chancellor's "no-change" budget was based upon the premise that no one can forecast what war against Japan may call for, but he declared that he will introduce a supplementary budget when the picture is clearer.

The exact figure of the year's expenditure was £6,063,000,000 or £126,000,000 more than the estimate. There was a pregnant pause in the Chancellor's review when he stated that in five and a half years of war up to March of this year, Britain has spent on all services the sum of £27,400,000,000.

Anderson further explained that it would be particularly necessary to pay attention to Britain's overseas expenditure for it was the overseas financial position which was their immediate cause for anxiety which he said has become "increasingly grave." He disclosed that Britain's liabilities to overseas creditors by the end of last year reached and now exceeded £3,000,000,000 and was likely to total £4,000,000,000.

Sir John warned that Britain must continue her imports of food and raw materials for industry for at least three years after the war. The Chancellor's statement was interpreted as meaning that the British standard of living immediately after the war may have to defer to the vital problem of recapturing a place in world trade.

Hammering home these uncomfortable facts, Anderson remarked that the aggregate volume of internal debt at the end of the war would be 25 times as great as after the Napoleonic Wars and more than three times as great as after the last World War.

Coming to his estimates the Chancellor said he proposed £4,500,000,000 in round figures for votes of credit. He could not, he said, afford to indulge in excessive optimism. With this figure, total expenditure would be £5,565,000,000 or about £500,000,000 below the total for 1944-45. On the revenue side, he estimated income tax yield at £1,350,000,000 and the yield of excess profits tax at £500,000,000 or £10,000,000 less than actually received last year.

Franco May Quit

Domei

ZURICH, April 23.—With the shifting changes in the European war situation, the political situation in Spain is undergoing subtle changes. According to an United Press report received here, it says that General Francisco Franco, Spanish Chief of State, is liable to resign his post and to concentrate on the re-establishment of the Bourbon Rule.

RESPECT PAID TO SOULS OF 41,318 NEW WAR DEAD

Imperial Messenger Prays at Yasukuni Shrine; Enshrinement Held Tuesday

On behalf of His Majesty the Emperor, the Imperial Messenger, Prince Hiroyoshi Ito, offered prayers at 9 a.m. yesterday at the Yasukuni Shrine to the souls of the 41,318 war heroes newly deified at the enshrinement ceremony Tuesday night. War Minister General Korechika Anami, Navy Minister Admiral Mitsumasa Yonai, Chairman of the Grand Festival Committee Admiral Zengo Yoshida, the commanders of the military defense districts and naval stations, and representatives of various schools, who had assembled, also paid their respects and offered prayers to the warrior gods.

The Vernal Extraordinary Grand Festival of the Yasukuni Shrine was opened Wednesday following the ceremony for the enshrinement Tuesday night of the souls of 41,318 war dead.

In view of the prevailing war situation, the previous custom of inviting the families of the war dead to attend in person the enshrinement ceremony and the following festival was dispensed with this year. Nevertheless, the enshrinement rites were held with all due ceremony on Tuesday night. Although the absence of the usual crowds, comprising members of the families of the enshrined war heroes and worshippers, imbued the proceedings on Tuesday night with a touch of loneliness, the very simplicity of the rites added to their dignity.

On Thursday, Friday and Saturday the Yasukuni Shrine will be open to the general public.

CATHOLIC PRIESTS RAP DUMBARTON OAKS PLAN

Vatican Paper Stresses That World Peace Be Founded On Equality, Freedom

Pointing to the defects of the Dumbarton Oaks proposals, a statement issued recently by an organization of American Catholic priests stressed that the future world peace structure should be founded on the principles of equality and freedom.

The statement, which was carried in the Osservatore Romano, official Vatican organ, of April 17, said that although there was a need for not only the United States but other nations as well to depart from conservative isolationism and actively to cooperate for the construction of peace, the decisions at Dumbarton Oaks and Yalta were far from democratic ideals. The statement said that the extreme powers granted the security council, the relation between the big Powers and the international court of justice and the voting power of the big Powers gave the impression that the organization was merely an alliance pact between the large nations.

No true cooperation of the nations of the world can be expected with this being the situation, the statement stressed, pointing out that the future world peace structure had to be founded on the principles of equality and freedom.

The decision on the Polish issue reached at Yalta, the statement continued, was an opportunistic action of the large nations who ignored the freedom of the Polish people. The statement held that it was in opposition to the Atlantic Charter, and that the situation in the Baltic States and other places was also in opposition to justice.

Holding that the problem of minorities contained the possibilities of becoming the key to peace, the statement advocated the conclusion of international pacts for the protection of their rights, in respect to enemy nations, the statement declared that justice must prevail in their supervision, that hate and a thirst for revenge must be left behind and a solution to the problem reached calmly. The statement said that to do so was the heavy responsibility of the United Nations Conference on International Organization opening tomorrow in San Francisco.

Marella Visits Raided Areas

Archbishop Paolo Marella, Roman apostolic delegate in Tokyo, on Tuesday inspected the Meiji Shrine, the Asakusa Honganji Temple, the Roman Catholic Church in Fukagawa and the Fukagawa Hospital which were heavily damaged by the enemy air raids. Later, he offered a prayer for the peaceful repose of those killed during the air raids and temporarily buried at the Sarue Park and the Toyo Park in Fukagawa.

Japanese Assaults Hit Enemy Air Force In Okinawa Islands

By a Member
Of the Military Press Corps

CERTAIN BASE IN THE SOUTH, April 25.—The Wild Eagles of the Special Attack Corps of the Navy went into action on April 20 and 21. They attacked the North Airfield, blasting or setting ablaze several planes near the runway. The enemy has assembled about a hundred P-38's, P-47's and P-51's at the North Airfield. However, due to Japanese assaults, the enemy's fighting potential has greatly decreased. The fact that the A.A. fire was very weak, no searchlights were shot up and only a few fighter planes took up the Japanese challenge, attests to the weakened condition of the enemy air force based at the North Airfield.

DAMAGE CAUSED BY B-29'S TO JAPAN'S CITIES BARED

3 Million People Rendered Homeless, 770,000 Houses Razed to the Ground

From March to the middle of April, enemy blind-raids on Tokyo and other main cities in Japan have reduced 770 000 houses to ashes and rendered 3,000,000 people homeless. The enemy bombers concentrated mostly on the indiscriminate bombing of thickly populated residential areas.

On March 10 a powerful wind added to the havoc wrought by the enemy incendiaries in the Tokyo area, many areas having been wiped out by fires. In Tokyo, Asakusa, Honjo, Fukagawa, Joto and Mukojima ward districts were almost entirely razed to the ground, while Shitaya, Hongo, Nihonbashi, Kanda and Arakawa wards suffered considerable damage.

During the early part of April Toshima, Itabashi, Oji, Yotsuya, Omori, Kamata, Ebara and Shinagawa wards suffered considerable damage from enemy raids. Kamata ward was almost entirely razed to the ground, while many parts of the other wards were burned to the ground.

In the Yokohama area, Tsurumi, Naka, Hodogaya and Kanagawa wards sustained damage. In Osaka, Nishihari, Nishi, Minami, Kita, Tennoji, Minato and Taisho wards were bombed. In Nagoya, the Higashi, Sakae, Naka, Atsuta, Showa, Nakamura and Nakagawa wards were bombed. In Kobe, the greater part of Hyogo, Minato and Soto ward areas was damaged badly, while the other parts of Kobe also suffered.

In Tokyo, about 510,000 houses were burned, while about 130,000 houses were burned in Osaka, about 60,000 in Nagoya, and about 70,000 in Kobe. Victims in Tokyo numbered 2,100,000, with about 510,000 in Osaka, about 270,000 in Nagoya, and about 260,000 in Kobe. The damage sustained and the number of victims in the Yokohama and Kawasaki areas are now being investigated.

In their indiscriminate bombing operations the enemy raiders hit the Omiya and Akasaka Detached Palaces, and have bombed the Meiji Shrine, and other palaces, shrines and temples.

STRIKES HIT DETROIT

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 24.—Two new strikes affected the war production in the Detroit area today as two plants of the Kelsey-Hayes Wheel Company and one department of the Packard Motor Car Company were closed down, a report from the city said.

At the plants of the Kelsey-Hayes, 4,000 workers were affected by a renewal of last week's strike that followed the dismissal of a group of workers accused by the management of ejecting a foreman. A strike by 110 inspectors at the Packard plant caused the company to send home 3,000 workers in the Rolls Royce aircraft engine final assembly department. The strikes followed a dispute over the number of engines to be inspected on each shift.

Giles Heads Air Force

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 24.—The U.S. War Department today announced the appointment of Lieutenant General Barney M. Giles as commanding general of the U.S. army air forces in the Pacific Ocean area succeeding Lieutenant General Millard F. Harmon, who has been reported missing in the Pacific for several weeks, according to a Washington dispatch.

9 MORE U.S. WARCRAFT HIT IN OKINAWA BATTLE

Enemy's Stubborn General Attack on Main Island is Brought to a Standstill

Special to the Nippon Times

ADVANCE BASE IN SOUTHWESTERN ISLANDS AREA, April 25.—Air Units of the Japanese Special Attack Corps here sallied forth to strike the U.S. warcraft around the main Okinawa Island in a fierce offensive action launched from dusk of April 22 to daybreak the following day.

In seven hours from about 7 p.m. a total of nine enemy warcraft, including three battleships or cruisers, one heavy cruiser, one large transport, and four warships of unidentified category (believed most certain to be battleships or cruisers) were sunk, damaged or set ablaze.

At 7:05 p.m. on April 22 the first Air Unit, contacting an enemy fleet in the sea area northeast of the Kerama Islands, heavily damaged and set ablaze one battleship or cruiser besides sinking one large transport.

Spotting another fleet consisting of five or six battleships or cruisers in the area southeast of Awakuni Island, another Unit of the Special Attack Corps sank or damaged five warships. The time was 7:30 p.m.

At 12:55 a.m. the next day the third Special Attack Air Unit discovered a group of three to four battleships or cruisers around the Kerama group and, in a ramming attack, damaged one battleship or cruiser, setting it ablaze. This was followed by another attack also launched by a Special Attack Unit at 2:05 a.m. when one heavy enemy cruiser was sunk in the area north of the Kerama Islands.

Enemy Attack Frustrated

In face of the vigorous Japanese counteroffensive, the stubborn U.S. attacks in the southern part of the main Okinawa Island were brought to a standstill. On April 24 only local fighting took place in the western coastal area.

Despite their tremendous losses, the invasion forces on the southern front, numbering about 5,000 to 6,000 with about 90 tanks, are now preparing their next offensive.

Over the sea area around the main Okinawa Island, the Special Attack Corps of the Japanese Army and Navy are relentlessly attacking the enemy task forces day in and day out, and are achieving brilliant battle results.

Meanwhile, enemy fleet bombardments against the main Okinawa Island are gradually decreasing. Approximately 5,500 shells were fired on April 20, but the number has decreased since then, with the enemy firing 4,500 shells on April 21, 3,000 on April 22, and 2,000 the following day.

Continue Air Attacks

Domei

CENTRAL PACIFIC BASE, April 23.—In an attempt to obstruct Japanese attacks on the enemy forces in the fighting centered on the main Okinawa Island, the enemy has been raiding South Kyushu with a small number of carrier planes.

Catching up with a fleet of large enemy warships and vessels to the south of the Kerama Islands on the evening of April 20, Japanese Air Units carried out lightning attacks. Furthermore that same night they blasted the North and Central airfields on the main island while again on the following night they carried out a surprise attack on both airfields. Overcoming the resistance of enemy night fighters which came sweeping down on them, the Japanese Air Units made direct hits on their targets.

In the meantime, another unit attacked a fleet of enemy transports to the north of Motobe Peninsula on the same night. Then at dawn of April 20 they sunk one large transport off Katena. From April 21 to 22 explosions were heard and great columns of smoke numbering from 40 to 50 were observed from the main Okinawa Island.

About 310 enemy planes raided Japanese positions in the Southwestern Islands area yesterday.

13 B-29'S DOWNED TUESDAY

Japanese Air and Land Forces downed 13 B-29 bombers and damaged 33 when 120 Mariana-based planes raided airfields and munitions factories in the vicinity of Tachikawa, Shimizu, and Shizuoka on Tuesday, according to later investigations.

Heads Chinkai Defense Post

Vice-Admiral Gisaburo Yamaguchi has been appointed Commander of the Chinkai Naval Defense Headquarters succeeding Vice-Admiral Kiyozumi Oka who has been shifted to the Naval General Staff, it was announced on Saturday by the Navy Ministry.

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TOKYO, THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 1945

The Future After Berlin

With the fighting now raging in the very streets of Berlin, the question naturally arises as to what it portends for the future of Europe. The leaders of the German Reich exhort every German to resist to the very end so long as breath should remain in their bodies, never to admit defeat, never to lay down arms, never to yield their souls though their bodies should perish. And from all indications, the German people are firmly set in their determination to respond loyally to this call.

What this means in terms of military consequences is not the essential point. Anything may conceivably happen. It may mean that Berlin will not easily fall, or on the contrary the enemy may unexpectedly overrun the city relatively quickly. It may mean that the capture of Berlin, if it should take place, will result in the early end of the war; or again it may only mean the beginning of a new phase of the war in which the German people, sallying from mountain fastnesses or springing stealthily from the countryside, will keep up an interminable, unrelenting battle against the invaders. That the latter course will be most likely is indicated by the elaborate underground organization which already exists for the conduct of a deadly guerrilla combat, and by the frank admission of General Dwight Eisenhower that a general collapse of German resistance is most improbable and that the war would not end unless the invasion forces should succeed in occupying every corner of the whole country.

But, to repeat, whatever course the fighting may take in the immediate future, that is not the essential point. The future of Europe depends not upon whether the invasion forces can compass the military subjugation of Germany or not, but upon whether in the end the enemies' plans for the re-ordering of Europe for their own advantage can permanently be made to prevail or whether in the end Germany's conception of the New Order in Europe will emerge as the only plan capable of survival. Viewed from such a standpoint, it is inevitable that the enemies' plans must fail, not only because it is morally imperative that they should fail but also because, being based on inherently false and unsound premises, they cannot help but fail. By the same token, it is inevitable that Germany's conception of the New Order must eventually prevail, not only because it is just and morally desirable, but because it is rationally the only system capable of ensuring the existence and welfare of Europe. No other system will work, and hence in the end it will have to triumph.

The enemies' plans for the treatment of Germany in case they should succeed in overrunning the whole country are apparently not yet complete. Moreover there appear to be several rival plans, the respective advocates of which are competing for supremacy. But although these various plans under consideration in enemy quarters may differ in degree, they are one in calling for drastic measures to break the power of Germany. Germany is to be deprived of extensive territories, if not completely dismembered. Her vital industries are to be destroyed or crippled. She is to be denied access to vital raw materials. She is to be prevented from engaging in essential transport and communications activities. She is to be rendered helpless to defend herself. Her manpower may be drafted to work as slave labor in foreign countries. With Germany thus eliminated, the enemy countries hope to dominate and exploit the smaller nations of Europe which will be attached to the various competing spheres of influence of the major Powers.

Merely to state these conditions contemplated by the enemy Powers shows how unworkable they will be. Whatever may be the military outcome, the German people will never be able to resign themselves to such an unreasonable arrangement based on blind vindictiveness. Passion will beget passion, and there will be constant sabotage and resistance which will keep the country in permanent turmoil. No amount of military policing will avail, for, as the old saying goes, one can do almost anything with a bayonet except sit on it. Moreover the enemy countries will not have the inclination nor the ability to maintain military occupation permanently.

Furthermore, the destruction of Germany will disrupt the economy of the whole European continent which is naturally and geographically an integrated unit with Germany as the central balance wheel. The peripheral countries which the enemy Powers hope to dominate and exploit will find their economies also wrecked, so that there will be no profit to anyone in the end. The enemies' plans provide for no new unified system to take the place of the one they would destroy, for their only aim is to drain off the spoils without contributing anything themselves. The final effect will be to kill off their own profits as well as to leave Europe in ruin.

Lacking any constructive plan for the social or political welfare of the European peoples, the enemies' measures will leave all the countries of Europe a helpless prey to the competing ravages of ruthlessly predatory capitalistic imperialism and unrestrained communism. Not only domestically in each of the countries but in the general international sphere as well, there will be a bitter struggle between these two rival forces of capitalism and communism. Europe will be torn asunder and thrown into chaos and anarchy.

In contrast, Germany's conception of the New Order in Europe, which was well on the way toward realization until interrupted by the enemies' destructive attacks, holds out the promise of an entirely different Europe. In accordance with her natural role as decreed by her geographic position and national ability, Germany would serve as the balance wheel stabilizing the economy and politics of all Europe. All the countries of Europe would cooperate together in a single integrated economic system which would redound to the profit and prosperity of all. An enlightened and progressive social order designed for the welfare of all classes of society would ensure social harmony and cultural advancement, instead of the strife inherent in the individualistic selfishness of capitalism or the class tyranny of communism. Europe would be a unified society of kindred states working for the common weal instead of an arena for the combat of rival predatory Powers. Peace, order, and prosperity would prevail, instead of the strife, anarchy, and ruin inherent in the enemies' plans.

In view of the contrast between these two systems, such a system as that originally envisaged by Germany must sooner or later prevail, for it is the only system which possesses the qualities necessary for survival. The enemies' plans carry within them the seeds of their own destruction. The enemies' military attacks may delay and disrupt the inevitable course of events, but there can be no change in the eventual outcome. Under whatever auspices the New Order may eventually be constructed, to whomever may fall the eventual role of leadership, it is Germany's conception which will eventually triumph.

As the battle rages in Berlin today, it must be considered that the military outcome, therefore, whatever it may be, is not the essential point. The essential point is the inexorable fact that the future of Europe will inevitably come to represent the triumph of the German ideal.

A Year Ago Today

April 26, 1944

A total of 19 enemy B-24 bomber planes made a morning abortive raid on Mereyon Island in the Caroline Group. The enemy lost two planes that were downed in furious aerial combat by the Japanese Units on the spot. The other enemy bombers failed to carry out any effective assault and fled. No damage was reported on our side.

• • •

Shipping between Eire and Portugal came to a complete standstill owing to the refusal of the British authorities to issue navicerts for Irish ships sailing between their home ports and Lisbon, it was revealed.

• • •

Three Chilean Cabinet members belonging to the Radical Party tendered their resignations to Chilean President Juan Antonio Rios, it was disclosed.

DE GAULLE GOVERNMENT BACKS 'FRISCO MEETING

French Leaders Believe Nation's Security Lies in Powerful International Organ

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, April 24.—By giving the Government unanimous vote of confidence, the French consultative assembly in its recent debate on policy at the San Francisco conference showed that its unanimity was not purely a formality but expressed the satisfaction of all the groups with the Government's proposed amendments to the Dumbarton Oaks plan and the memorandum which accompanied them, revealed the correspondent of the Times, London on April 4 writing under the caption "Security for France."

The special commission appointed in December to study the plan and suggest improvements had as its chairman, Paul Boncour, for many years permanent French representative to the League of Nations. Seventeen others of the commission were technical experts of Quai D'Orsay, professors of international law, political economy or history, and members of the Assembly or deputies.

As subsequent amendments and memorandum are closely based on the work of this commission, the trend revealed during its discussions and commission conclusion are a safe guide to French policy. Boncour considers that The Hague failed not through faults in its machinery or in its conception but through the lack of determination on the part of its principal members.

This idea recurs in French statements on Dumbarton Oaks and in Foreign Minister Georges Bidault's latest speech. The chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Assembly and the professor of Cassin, represented the idealistic and juridical approach. Opposing them was Pierre Cot who knows both America and Asia and whose approach was practical and realistic.

The core of Cot's thesis which has prevailed, is expressed in the commissions' report in these words: International organization corresponding to our aspirations would presuppose a degree of political maturity, international conscience and mutual confidence which is far from having been reached.

Depends on Mutual Understanding

Furthermore, in the period which will follow war, the maintenance of peace will depend chiefly on mutual understanding among the great Powers. The French will beware of proposing anything which might endanger this understanding. After having set them forth, she will subordinate her doctrinal preference to an agreement of the United Nations.

There is yet another trend. If it is true that most of the Frenchmen have been inclined since the last war to look to international authority for that protection against aggression which France was less and less able to provide for herself, it is equally true that to most Frenchmen, collective security is a little suspicious.

The League of Nations not only failed to protect France from disaster but by diffusing a fallacious sense of security, it served the aggressor nation as soporific. Those Frenchmen most acutely conscious of the danger of an inadequate machinery for ensuring collective security are, of course, leaders of the armed forces and the government. That quarter insists on preserving regional pacts and on impressing upon states their international duty to be armed and vigilant. These are screens that have to be commingled to form the French policy at San Francisco. Whatever her origins, they are strong in the support of the Dumbarton Oaks plan.

An additional guarantee lies in the personality of Bidault, leader of the French delegation. He championed for many years the prewar principle of collective security and support of the League. The same is true of the other leading members of the delegation.

Pleaven, Finance Minister, has been often found critical of the attitude of the British in international affairs and of their slowness in appreciating the closeness of French and British common interests. The very nature of these criticisms indicate the strength of his belief in Anglo-French cooperation. Billous, unobstrucive but able communist Minister of Health, will no doubt guide the delegation in a way favorable to Soviet views. But he is a patriot which means that he will bear all French interests in mind. He always has been a firm believer in collective security.

Will Press Amendments

Though the French delegation will do nothing to jeopardize whatever agreement the United Nations may reach, they will press for their amendments. Improvements that France will endeavor to introduce can be classified under two heads.

She will seek to give more authority to international organization, greater power to the Assembly, greater prominence to ideas of law and justice, and respect for treaties which offer only justice, and respect for treaties which offer only protection against abuse by big nations of immense powers conferred on them under the plan. She will also try to enhance the position of the Court of International Justice and to strengthen the guarantees of individual liberties, to safeguard against the admission of new members whose national ideals or forms of government are incompatible with the aims of the organization and the powers of the economic and social council. This last provision is one to which the French attach great importance. Another group of changes tending to ensure the efficiency of the organization as a means of averting war among them are the proposal to make neutrality incompatible with membership and the demand that any international force should be composed of all arms and that its elements should be stationed at selected garrison points.

Regional pacts provided for by the Dumbarton Oaks plan are, in the French opinion, the very bricks of world organization. In these regional pacts, the smaller nations, those which in League days were called "Nations With Limited Interests," will come into their own. Their economic and military forces, joining those of neighboring great powers, will in effect form a regional international force ready to act in the emergency of pending mobilization at the danger spot of the whole might of the world organization. There will be no refusal on the part of France to join whatever world organization emerges from the San Francisco conference but the quality of her adhesion will depend on the extent to which the plan there evolved corresponds to her general conception of what is right and what is expedient.

Meanwhile, the Economist on March 17 writes under the caption "French Isolation" as follows:

The supelminded Frenchmen may be reasonably growing anxious over the position of isolaton into which the "adventurism" of President De Gaulle's foreign policy have led them.

Plays Lone Hand

In the past, particularly in his dealing with Britain and America, General De Gaulle has managed to gain most of his points by playing a stiff and lonely hand. It is apparently not so easy to play this game with the Soviets. Last week, Paris was surprised and disturbed by the publication of a dispatch from Moscow in which the Franco-Soviet Pact was declared to be secondary of accessory to the Yalta decision. This dispatch is a direct rebuke to the French foreign policy in its attempt to elucidate the relationship between the Security pact and the voting formula before undertaking to sponsor the San Francisco conference. It is less clear whether in fact the Soviet Government wishes to make operations of the Franco-Soviet pact dependent upon British-American consent.

At this moment it probably wishes to avoid any interpretation which would lessen the unanimity of the "Big Three" at San Francisco. French opinion is beginning to draw from the Soviet's attitude the conclusion that the French would be wise to come to a closer understanding with the other great Powers.

In this reaction, there is rather an unpleasing touch of opportunism. If the value of the pact with Britain depends on the humor of Moscow, it cannot have such a weak foundation. In reality, very solid French interests are involved but De Gaulle's conduct of foreign affairs has allowed them to be obstructed. Even on the home front, the isolation of France, however, temporary, is likely to have unfortunate results. With on opportunism far surpassing General De Gaulle's, Maurice Thorez French Communist leader seems to be serving notice that the honeymoon between the Government and communists is coming to end.

At the mass meeting last week, after criticising the French foreign policy, he raised again questions of resistance and of nationalization, both problems which were to have been shelved in the interests of national unit. It isn't only from Moscow that the Soviets are putting on the screws.

RAID WARNINGS CHANGED

The system of issuing alert and air raid warnings and information over the radio has been changed and standardized throughout the country. Previously, following the sounding of the buzzer, the precautionary warning would be, for instance "Tokaichiku keikaikeiho, Tobugunkanku shireikan hatsurei," meaning "Tokai region, precautionary warning. Issued by the Eastern Military District Command." As from today, the precautionary warning will be, "Kwantochiku, keikaikeiho hatsurei," meaning, "Kwanto Region precautionary warning." The use of "Gunkanku shireikwan," or "Military District Command," has been discontinued.

This system will be applied to the naval command areas also; the precautionary warning for the Kwanto Sea Area being, "Kwanto Kaimen, keikaikeiho hatsurei," the source of the military quarters issuing the warnings being omitted.

In the case of information also, the use of the term "Tobu gunkanku" has been discontinued, and the term "Tobu boku joho," or "Eastern Air Defence Information," substituted instead.

This simplified system is being used throughout the country.

TRUSTEESHIP PROPOSAL SET FOR AXIS TERRITORY

Is of Vital Importance to U.S. In Regard to Pacific Isles, Declares Lippmann

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 20.—Walter Lippmann writing in the New York Herald Tribune yesterday analyzed the proposal for the establishment of trusteeships over former enemy territory saying it "conforms to the Atlantic Charter only by a very loose construction of the words of the Charter" if it can be called conforming, according to a New York dispatch.

This proposal, Lippmann declared, is of particular importance to the United States in regard to the outpost islands of the Pacific which have been wrested from Japan.

He said in part: "Under the Atlantic Charter we are pledged to 'seek no aggrandizement of territory or otherwise, and we cannot of course. But it is sophistry of arguing to say that to possess these islands is not 'aggrandizement' because they have only a total land area of some 900 square miles.

"It would not be honest to deny that our vital interests are in conflict with the plain words of the Atlantic Charter. The principle of trusteeship which was agreed to at Yalta is an attempt to reconcile this conflict. The essence of the proposal is this: the mandated islands, namely the Marshalls, Carolines and the Marianas, were mandated to Japan by the League of Nations after the last World War. The United Nations organization is to be heir of the old League of Nations and it is from it the true legal rights to the mandated islands will have to be derived.

Violating Atlantic Charter

"If we ask for outright annexation we shall formally violate the Atlantic Charter. If we do not obtain effective possession, we shall not have a strategically secure frontier. Trusteeship proposal as it affects these islands is to leave formal title with the United Nations but to exercise effective possession under the deed of trust which cannot be revoked or altered without our consent.

"This solution is not wholly satisfactory to many. They would prefer full sovereignty without any reservation which implied that other nations had the right to inspect and to criticize our use of these highly strategic positions. They feel that these islands are as much a part of the American defense as Pearl Harbor or Bremerton or Norfolk. Whether in fact they become that depends upon the terms and deed of trust which will have to be negotiated not at San Francisco but in the peace settement.

"There is no disguising the fact that the trusteeship solution as we mean to apply it here conforms to the Atlantic Charter. As a result we cannot with good conscience refuse to give to our allies some of the benefit of doubt when they too make claims which seem just as vitally important to their security as the Pacific islands are to ours.

"Thus Australia will, as Herbert Evatt her Minister of State for External Affairs has put it, "naturally regard the arc of islands lying to the north and northeast of our (Australia) continent" as "of crucial importance." France has a similar preoccupation with the river Rhine and Rhineland and the Rhur, Britain with the low countries, the channel coast and the security of the Mediterranean, the Soviet Union with the borderland, with Germany and with access to the sea through the Baltic and Black Seas and the Persian Gulf.

"There is an old saying that all legitimate interests are in harmony and that the task of each of the great powers is to demonstrate that its interests are so legitimate that they can be harmonized with the interests of others. This is not at all impossible. But it will require an enormous amount of tolerance and of humility as we can see clearly when we examine sincerely our own claim to extend our military frontier from the middle of the Pacific to within close range of the mainland of Asia.

"Let us not then as champions of international morality forget that the first rule of moral is the golden rule and let us not, as so many of us so often do, judge ourselves more generously than we do our allies and our comrades in arms."

Urges Possessing Tarawa

Domei

LISBON, April 20.—With the clamor for American ownership of Pacific islands rising in the House of Representatives, John Z. Anderson, Republican Representative from California, today urged the permanent American ownership of Tarawa Island.

Demanding that the United States Government start negotiations with the British Government toward that end, he said that Tarawa might have been British territory before the war but no matter whose flag waved over the island, Tarawa should belong forever to the American Marines who fought there and fell there and whose remains are still buried there.

News and Views

San Francisco Conference—A Cemetery for the Smaller Nations

Of the Dumbarton Oaks Conference, a certain Englishman has sarcastically called it the "Dumbarton Hoax" while another European has dubbed the projected San Francisco Conference as the "Sanfiasco Conference." This is not mere sarcasm for it accurately presages the fate of the San Francisco Conference. From hoax to fiasco, and from fiasco to failure—that is the predestined fate of the San Francisco Conference.

The above conclusion may well be drawn from the logic of President Harry Truman's first address to a joint session of the American Congress on April 16. "Honest" Truman admitted that the mission imposed on the San Francisco Conference was exceedingly complicated and difficult. He said: "Real security will be found only in law and in justice . . . . . Without justice, an enduring peace becomes impossible . . . . If the wars in the future are to be prevented, the nations must be united in their determination to keep the peace under law." The Dumbarton Oaks plan for postwar international security, which is the basis on which the San Francisco Conference is projected allegedly for the purpose of establishing an international security structure, however, instead of being founded on law and justice, the absolute prerequisities for the maintenance of peace, is based on power politics and armed force of the big powers. That this is so is clearly substantiated in the agreement itself of the Dumbarton Oaks plan.

Actually, the agreement of the American, British and Soviet controlled League Council says "The Council has full authority relative to the prevention of aggression; it can resort to the use of army, navy and air power without having to ascertain the opinion of all members of the League." Thus, the use of armed force is openly recognized on the will alone of the big powers, thoroughly ignoring the various small countries.

Against Whose Aggression?

The so-called "big powers" talk of preventing aggression and they are also propagandizing the complete victory in the near future over Germany and Japan. And when they are talking of the complete disarmament of Germany and Japan as well as the pulverization of these countries, we might well ask "what country's aggression are they anticipating and preparing against?" And we might well ask too, "Do they not know that the aggression they talk about cannot arise from any source but from amidst their present ranks?"

The Dumbarton Oaks proposal allows the stronger powers to have as large an armed force as possible. It also stipulates that the use of this armed force should be directed by the headquarters composed of the United States, Britain, the Soviet Union and Chungking. Mention is unnecessary, however, that Chungking, long a puppet of Britain and the United States, is utterly powerless. De Gaullist France has been permitted to enter circles, of the United States, Britain and the Soviet Union, but it certainly has not yet the real strength of a big power. The circumstances being such, the final analysis would mean that the postwar world would be exploited under the domination of the British, American and Soviet armed forces and suffer no alternative but enslavement. In this light, the San Francisco Conference will be a graveyard for the sovereignty of the attending smaller nations.

President Truman said: "The machinery for the just settlement of international differences must be found." If that is so, then the San Francisco Conference is taking the opposite course. The truth, admittedly, was said when Truman declared: "Without justice, an enduring peace becomes impossible." The results of the San Francisco Conference, however, will be an absolute failure, best expressed by Truman's own words: "The world will be doomed to deadly conflict devoid of hope for real peace."

The so-called Allied "New League of Nations" may be able to establish peace but it will be an armed peace for the benefit of the big powers such as the United States, Britain and the Soviet Union. For the smaller countries, the indications are that it will be nothing but a "canned peace" in which they will have no voice whatsoever.

PRESS COMMENTS

Wednesday, April 25

SAN FRANCISCO CONFERENCE

MAINICHI—The much vaunted San Francisco Conference starts today. It has already become clear that the conference will experience rough sailing for America has already declared that no agreement of views will probably be reached at the parley.

The first of the disputes that preceded the conference was concerning the number of votes of the Soviet Union and the United States. The course of events concerning this issue is known to our readers; even today, this problem has not been solved. Certain trouble is bound to occur in connection also with the voting rights of the British Dominions.

The second issue is concerning the participation of the Warsaw regime in the conference. The Soviet Union takes the view that the Warsaw regime, because it is the Polish Government inasmuch as it is at present in fact governing Poland, should be invited to the conference as a matter of course. Now, the Anglo-American viewpoint is based on the ground that the present Warsaw regime, being all too leftist, should first be reformed.

The Soviet Union, with the best Soviet obstinacy, again and again has been demanding the participation of that regime; and America and Britain, on the other hand, are not giving in as easily as they used to. It is strange indeed—but what will after all become of this issue? The conference is about to open—but the Polish issue still remains unsolved.

Something else deserves attention in connection with the prospects of the parley. In the first place, Roosevelt, the "spirit of the conference, is dead. His successor, Truman, has not got the power to rule over the conference. At present, it is said he will not participate in the parley. On top of it, apparently former State Secretary Hull is not going to show up during the first part of the conference. Indeed, the representation of the sponsor country will be extremely poor.

The second great change is about the delegation of the Soviet Union. First, it had been announced that that country was to be represented by its young Ambassador to the United States. But now, Foreign Commissar Molotov himself is to come out. Also at the Dumbarton Oaks Parley which drafted the plan for the International Structure to be discussed at the San Francisco Conference, it was the Ambassador Gromyko who represented the Soviet Union. Yet, now a midway change has been made, and the Foreign Commissar was decided to cross the Atlantic.

Considering things from this angle, one may say that even though the character of the San Francisco Conference may not change, yet its color has changed greatly. While it is that the conference is being opened in a city of the United States, the impression is being gained that the Soviet Union is de facto the sponsor country. And the strength of the Soviet Union lies in the fact that Supreme Leader Stallin, the Soviet Premier, is issuing orders from Moscow.

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